

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1 1. A method comprising:

2 receiving digital content and metadata associated with  
3 the digital content;

4 receiving publication information associated with the  
5 digital content;

6 producing protected digital content; and

7 sending a message including the metadata and publication  
8 information.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving digital content  
2 includes receiving digital content from a digital content  
3 management (DCM) system.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving publication  
2 information includes receiving publication information using a  
3 graphical user interface (GUI).

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the digital content  
2 includes at least one of streaming video content, music  
3 content, graphic content, print content, sound content, or  
4 audio content.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein metadata includes at least  
2 one of a name, length, publisher, location, or description  
3 associated with the digital content.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein publication information  
2 includes at least one of pricing, rights, or catalog  
3 information associated with the digital content.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein producing protected digital  
2 content includes encrypting the digital content and storing  
3 the encrypted digital content into a file transfer protocol  
4 (FTP) directory such that the digital content is accessible  
5 over a network.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein producing protected digital  
2 content includes encrypting the digital content and storing  
3 the encrypted digital content into a real server transfer  
4 protocol (RSTP) directory such that the digital content is  
5 capable of being streamed over a network.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising producing  
2 thumbnail information associated with the digital content and  
3 storing the thumbnail information into a hypertext transfer  
4 protocol (HTTP) directory such that the thumbnail information  
5 is accessible over a network.

1 10. The method of claim 1 wherein producing protected digital  
2 content includes controlling access to the digital content  
3 over a network.

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein controlling access  
2 includes using an XrML license.

1 12. The method of claim 1 wherein sending includes sending a  
2 rights-label to a digital content rights management system  
3 (DRM), wherein the rights-label includes metadata and  
4 publication information associated with the digital content.

1 13. The method of claim 1 further comprising alerting a  
2 digital content distributor of the availability of the  
3 metadata and publication information associated with the  
4 digital content.

1 14. A digital content publication apparatus comprising:  
2 a memory unit; and  
3 a processor configured to:  
4 receive digital content and metadata associated with  
5 digital content,  
6 receive publication information associated with the  
7 digital content,  
8 produce protected digital content,  
9 store the protected digital content, and  
10 send a message including the metadata and  
11 publication information.

12 15. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is  
13 configured to receive digital content from a digital content  
14 management (DCM) system.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is  
2 configured to receive publication information using a  
3 graphical user interface (GUI).

1 17 The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the digital content  
2 includes at least one of streaming video content, music  
3 content, graphic content, print content, sound content, or  
4 audio content.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein metadata includes at  
2 least one of a name, length, publisher, location, or  
3 description associated with the digital content.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein publication information  
2 includes at least one of pricing, rights, or catalog  
3 information associated with the digital content.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is  
2 configured to encrypt the digital content and store the  
3 encrypted digital content into a file transfer protocol (FTP)  
4 directory such that the digital content is accessible over a  
5 network.

1 21. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is  
2 configured to encrypt the digital content and store the  
3 encrypted digital content into a real server transfer protocol  
4 (RSTP) directory such that the digital content is capable of  
5 being streamed over a network.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is  
2 configured to produce thumbnail information associated with  
3 the digital content and store the thumbnail information into a  
4 hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) directory such that the  
5 thumbnail information is accessible over a network.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is  
2 configured to control access to the digital content over a  
3 network.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the control access  
2 includes using an XrML license.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is  
2 configured to send includes sending a rights-label to a  
3 digital content rights management (DRM) system, wherein the  
4 rights-label includes metadata and publication information  
5 associated with the digital content.

1 26. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is  
2 further configured to alert a digital content distributor of

3 the availability of the metadata and publication information  
4 associated with the digital content.

1 27. An article comprising a computer-readable medium that  
2 stores computer executable instructions for causing a computer  
3 system to:

4 receive publication information associated with digital  
5 content, in response to receiving the digital content and  
6 metadata associated with the digital content;

7 produce protected digital content; and

8 send a message including the metadata and publication  
9 information.

1 28. The article of claim 27 further comprising instructions  
2 for causing the computer to produce protected digital content  
3 wherein the digital content is received from a digital content  
4 management (DCM) system.

1 29. The article of claim 27 further comprising instructions  
2 for causing the computer to receive publication information  
3 using a graphical user interface (GUI).

1 30. The article of claim 27 comprising instructions for  
2 causing the computer to produce protected digital content,  
3 wherein the digital content includes at least one of streaming

4 video content, music content, graphic content, print content,  
5 sound content, or audio content.

1 31. The article of claim 27 comprising instructions for  
2 causing the computer to protect the digital content, wherein  
3 the metadata includes at least one of a name, length,  
4 publisher, location, or description associated with the  
5 digital content.

1 32. The article of claim 27 comprising instructions for  
2 causing the computer to produce protected digital content,  
3 wherein the publication information includes at least one of  
4 pricing, rights, or catalog information associated with the  
5 digital content.

1 33. The article of claim 27 comprising instructions for  
2 causing the computer to produce protected digital content  
3 including instructions to encrypt the digital content and  
4 store the encrypted digital content into a file transfer  
5 protocol (FTP) directory such that the digital content is  
6 accessible over a network.

1 34. The article of claim 27 comprising instructions for  
2 causing the computer to produce protected digital content  
3 including instructions to encrypt the digital content and  
4 store the encrypted digital content into a real server

5 transfer protocol (RSTP) directory such that the digital  
6 content is capable of being streamed over a network.

1 35. The article of claim 27 comprising instructions for  
2 causing the computer to produce protected digital content  
3 including instructions to produce thumbnail information  
4 associated with the digital content and to store the thumbnail  
5 information into a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP)  
6 directory such that the thumbnail information is accessible  
7 over a network.

1 36. The article of claim 27 comprising instructions for  
2 causing the computer to produce protected digital content  
3 including instructions to control access to the digital  
4 content over a network.

1 37. The article of claim 36 comprising instructions for  
2 causing the computer to control access includes instructions  
3 for controlling access using an XrML license.

1 38. The article of claim 27 further comprising instructions  
2 for causing the computer to send a rights-label to a digital  
3 content rights management (DRM) system, wherein the rights-  
4 label includes metadata and publication information associated  
5 with the digital content.



1 39. The article of claim 27 further comprising instructions  
2 for causing the computer to alert a digital content  
3 distributor of the availability of the metadata and  
4 publication information associated with the digital content.

1 40. A digital content management (DCM) computer configured  
2 to:

3 send digital content and metadata associated with the  
4 digital content to a digital content publication (DCP)  
5 computer, in response to a request by the DCP computer.

1 41. The computer of claim 40 configured to:

2 send the metadata, wherein the metadata includes at least  
3 one of a name, length, publisher, location, or description  
4 associated with the digital content.

1 42. A digital rights management (DRM) system configured to:

2 retrieve metadata and publication information, in  
3 response to a message that the metadata and the publication  
4 information is available; and

5 store the metadata and the publication information.

1 43. The computer of claim 42 configured to:

2 store the metadata, wherein the metadata includes at  
3 least one of a name, length, publisher, location, or  
4 description associated with the digital content.

1 44. The computer of claim 42 configured to:

2 store publication information, wherein publication  
3 information includes at least one of pricing, rights, or  
4 catalog information associated with the digital content.

1 45. A content distributor system configured to:

2 retrieve metadata and publication information  
3 associated with digital content, in response to an alert  
4 that the metadata and the publication information is  
5 available;

6 store the metadata and the publication information;  
7 and

8 make available the metadata and the publication  
9 information.

1 46. The computer of claim 45 configured to:

2 store the metadata, wherein the metadata includes at  
3 least one of a name, length, publisher, location, or  
4 description associated with the digital content.

1 47. The computer of claim 45 configured to:

2 store the publication information, wherein publication  
3 information includes at least one of pricing, rights, or  
4 catalog information associated with the digital content

1 48. A content consumer computer configured to:

2 request a license to purchase digital content; and  
3 retrieve protected digital content based on whether  
4 the license grants access to the digital content.

1 49. The computer of claim 48 further configured to:

2 retrieve thumbnail information associated with the  
3 digital content.